

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A computer-implemented method of automatically updating television schedule data for a plurality of serially-scheduled events telecast on the same channel, each event having a starting time and a duration, the method comprising:

selecting a first one of said events that will extend beyond a scheduled duration thereof;

identifying a second one of said events as being the last one of a subset of said events for which starting times will be effected by the overrun of said first event; and

automatically updating schedule information data for each of said subset of events based upon information about said overrun.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said second event is identified by indicating the number of said events, relative to said first event, for which the start times will be delayed by an amount of time corresponding to said overrun.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said channel is one of a plurality of channels, the method further comprising:

selecting said one of said plurality of channels; and

displaying schedule information about a plurality of events being telecast via the selected channel;

wherein said first event is selected from the plurality of events being displayed.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein for each event, at least the scheduled starting date, starting time and event name are displayed.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein for each event, at least one of the duration and the end time [[are]] is displayed.

6. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein:
a channel schedule for said selected channel is represented by a database of Java objects, and
the displayed schedule information is represented by copies of a subset of said Java objects from said database.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein initially only ones of said copies can be effected by overrun-related schedule changes until said changes are approved by a user, then corresponding Java objects in said database are automatically updated and displayed.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the telecast is a digital terrestrial television broadcast that is compliant with the American Advanced Television Standards Committee (ATSC), each event is a program, and said schedule data is program and system information (PSIP) data, the method further comprising:

overwriting, upon approval by a user, PSIP data corresponding to the updated Java objects.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the overwritten PSIP data is the an event information table (EIT).

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein at least one of the following fields, event_id, start_time and length_in_seconds, of the EIT is overwritten.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said plurality of serially-scheduled events are each shifted in their entirety such that said second event is also the last one of said plurality of serially-scheduled events to be shifted in its entirety, or

wherein all of said plurality of serially-scheduled events except said second event are each shifted in their entirety such that said second event is truncated by being the first one of said plurality of serially-scheduled events to have the starting time thereof delayed but have the duration thereof truncated so as to preserve a starting time of a event immediately subsequent to said second event.

12. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein a default is for the second event to be truncated unless an indication is given that said second event is to be shifted in its entirety.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a start time for each of said plurality of serially-scheduled events is delayed according to said overrun.

14. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein an end time for each of said plurality of serially-scheduled events except said second event is delayed according to said overrun.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein an end time for said second event also is delayed according to said overrun.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the telecast is a digital television broadcast.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said digital television broadcast is a terrestrial broadcast.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said terrestrial broadcast is compliant with the American Advanced Television Standards Committee (ATSC), each event is a program, and said schedule data is program and system information (PSIP) data.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable article of manufacture having embodied thereon a computer program comprising a plurality of code segments to perform the method of ~~any one of~~ claim[[s]] 1.

20. (Currently Amended) An event and system information (PSIP) generator operable to carry out the method of ~~any one of~~ claim[[s]] 1.

21. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said subset of events involves at least two serially-scheduled events, excluding said first event.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the identifying step is performed using a graphical user interface.

23. (New) A method of updating a television broadcast schedule of a plurality of serially-scheduled events for a channel, the method comprising:

identifying an overrun of an end time of a particular one of the serially-scheduled events;

identifying a number of events following the particular event that are to be effected by the overrun; and

systemically updating a schedule of the serially-scheduled events based on the identified overrun and the identified number of events.

24. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the identifying steps are performed by a user entering data via a graphical user interface.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, further comprising:
identifying, via the graphical user interface, whether or not the last event in the identified number of events should be shifted in its entirety according to the overrun.

26. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising:
updating a program and system information (PSIP) data storage with the updated schedule in response to a user input.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the updating step updates an event information table (EIT) in the PSIP data storage with the updated schedule.

28. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the identified number of events is greater than one.